



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Rock Island Field Office (ES)
4469 - 48th Avenue Court
Rock Island, Illinois 61201

309/793-5800

REF 49

August 5, 1993

Mr. Eric Morton
PRC Environmental Management, Inc.
233 North Michigan Avenue
Suite 1621
Chicago, Illinois 60601

Dear Mr. Morton:

This is in response to your request of July 9, 1993, for information relative to federally listed threatened and endangered species and related environmentally sensitive areas in the vicinity of Sauget, Illinois. We understand that PRC Environmental Management, Inc., as a contractor for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, is currently assessing the Sauget Area 1 site for Superfund eligibility under the Hazard Ranking System. The area of concern includes a 15-mile long surface water target distance downstream of the site.

In accordance with Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, we are providing the following list of endangered or threatened species that may be present in the area of concern.

With respect to federally listed threatened or endangered species, the site is within the range of two federally listed species:

<u>Classification</u>	<u>Habitat</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>
Endangered	Wintering	St. Clair Monroe	Bald eagle	<u>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</u>
	Breeding	St. Clair	Bald eagle	<u>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</u>
Threatened	Disturbed alluvial soils	St. Clair	Decurrent false aster	<u>Boltonia decurrens</u>

Endangered	Rivers	Randolph (Mississippi River)	Pallid sturgeon.	<u>Scaphirynchus</u> <u>albus</u>
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The endangered bald eagle is listed as wintering in St. Clair and Monroe Counties, Illinois, primarily along large rivers. During the winter, this species feeds on fish in the open water areas created by dam tailwaters, in the warm water effluents of power plants of municipal and industrial discharges, or in power plant cooling ponds. It roosts at night in large trees adjacent to the river. It is listed as breeding in St. Clair County, Illinois. There is no Critical Habitat designated for this species in Illinois and the only restrictions that apply to the eagle are that it not be harassed, harmed or disturbed when present.

Decurrent false aster is listed as threatened in St. Clair County, Illinois. It typically occurs in disturbed alluvial soils along the Mississippi River floodplain. There is also potential habitat for this species in Monroe County along the Mississippi River floodplain. There is no Critical Habitat designated for this species in Illinois. Federal regulations prohibit any commercial activity involving this species or the destruction, malicious damage or removal of this species from Federal land or any other lands in knowing violation of State law or regulation, including State criminal trespass law.

Although the distribution of the pallid sturgeon in the Mississippi River includes primarily Randolph County, potential habitat exists for this species along the entire reach of the river below its confluence with the Missouri River.

With respect to federal wildlife refuges, there are currently no wildlife refuges located in the Illinois portion of the area of concern. There are, however, numerous wetlands which are present in the area of concern and are delineated on U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Wetland Inventory (NWI) maps currently available for that region on a scale of 1:24,000. Your agency may obtain the necessary NWI maps directly from the following address:

U.S. Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service
National Wetlands Inventory
9720 Executive Center Dr.
Suite 101 Monroe Bldg.
St. Petersburg, FL 33702.

We are only able to provide you with information on federally designated trustee resources. We recommend that you contact the Illinois Natural History Survey and the Illinois Department of

Conservation regarding the state-designated endangered and threatened species and habitat location information which you expressed an interest in. The addresses are provided below:

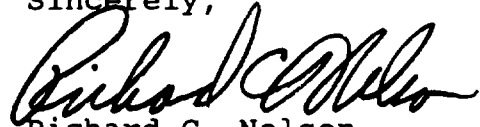
Illinois Natural History Survey
607 East Peabody Drive
Champaign, Illinois 61820
(217) 333-6880
Springfield, Illinois 62702

Illinois Department of Conservation
Division of Fisheries Resources
(or Division of Wildlife Resources)
600 North Grand Avenue West
Springfield, Illinois 62702.

These comments are provided as technical assistance only and do not represent the position of the Fish and Wildlife Service or the Department of the Interior on the project, or on any pending or forthcoming permits or environmental documents that may be required.

Please contact Melanie Young of this office at (309) 793-5800 if you should have any additional questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Richard C. Nelson".

Richard C. Nelson
Field Supervisor

MY:am

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THIS
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March 29, 1995

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